

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9289
INFO AMEMBASSY
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AINF PFOR BR
SUBJECT: REACTION TO RELEASE OF DOCUMENTS ABOUT US PARTICIPATION IN
1964 REVOLUTION

REF: BRASILIA 10477 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: IN FURTHER REATION TO RELEASE OF DOCUMENTS
SENATOR MAGALHAES PINTO HAS DENIED TO PRESS HE PARTICIPATED
1965 CONSPIRACY AGAIST CASTELLO BRANCO, BUT INDICATED
THAT THEN AMERICAN CONSUL IN BELO HORIZONTE, HERBERT OKUN,
OFFIERED ARMS AND OTHER MATERIAL SUPPORT TO 1964
REVOLUTIONALY MOVEMENT. IN WHAT MAY BE FIRST OF SUCCESSION
OF POLITICAL FEUDS REKINDLED BY RELEASE DOCUMENTS,
SAO PAULO GOVERNOR EGYDIO AND FORMER PRESIDENT QUADOS
HAVE TRADED ACCUSATIONS RE QUADOS ALLEGED PARTICIPATION
IN A PLOT AGAINST CASTELLO BRANCO. END SUMMARY.

2. IN FURHER TO RELEASE OF DOCUMENTS ABOUTT
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THE 1964 REVOLUTION FROM THE JOHNSON LIBRARY, SENATOR
MAGALHAES PINTO DECEMBER 22 DENIED THAT HE HAD PARTICIPATED
IN ANY CONSPIRACY TO OVERTHROW CASTELLO BRANCO IN 1965.
REGARDING CIA PARTICIPATION, IN 1964 REVOLUTION, PINTO
SAID INTELLIGENCE SERVICE HAD NOT BEEN ABOE TO
DISCOVER 1964 43;9)7589,. THEY DISCOVERED INSTEAD

A CONSPIRACY IN WHICH I DID NOT PARTICIPATE AND WHICH I BELIEVE DID NOT EXIST.

3. PINTO CONTINUED THE AMERICAN CONSUL HERBERT OKUN LOOKED ME UP IN THE PALACE ON THE MORNING OF MARCH 31 IN ORDER TO DISPLAY HIS FRUSTRATION AT LIVING IN BELO HORIZONTE AND NOT HAVING DISCOVERED THE REVOLUTION WHICH ENDED UP ORIGINATING IN MANAS ON THAT DAY HE OFFERED ME ASSISTANCE IN MONEY, ARMS, MUNITIONS, AND SUPPLIES WHICH I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY OF REFUSING, MAKING CLEAR THAT THE REVOLUTION WAS EXCLUSIVELY BRAZILIAN. ABOUT THE OTHER CONSPIRACY AGAINST PRESIDENT CASTELLO BRANCO, I AM UNABLE TO SAY ANYTHING BECAUSE I KNOW NOTHING OF THE SUBJECT.

4. IN OTHER REACTION SENATOR JARBAS PASSARINHO TOLD PRESS, "THE CIA IS NOT THE ABSOLUTE POSSESSOR OF TRUTH AND NOTHING THAT WAS PUBLISHED IS ABLE TO CONVINCE US THAT THE 1964 MOVEMENT WAS MADE BY THE CIA." PASSARINHO ALSO NOTED IT WAS HYPOCRITICAL TO BE SURPRISED BY THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE CIA IN POLITICAL MOVEMENTS. HE SAID, "IF THE RUSSIANS HAD THE BAD TASTE TO DIVULGE PUBLICITY SECRET DOCUMENTS WE WOULD KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE FIGHT THAT DIVIDED THE TWO IDEOLOGICAL HEMISPHERES."

5. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED A TELEGRAM FROM DEPUTY ADHEMAR BARROS FILHO PROTESTING AND REJECTING NEGATIVE CIA CHARACTERIZATION OF HIS FATHER, FORMER GOVERNOR ADHEMAR BARROS. WITH FILIAL LOYALTY BARROS FILHO CLAIMED THERE WAS NOTHING CIA COULD DO TO CHANGE OR DISTORT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE PRESUMABLY GOOD ADMINISTRATIVE AND POLITICAL IMAGE THE BRAZILIAN PEOPLE HAD OF HIS FATHER. CABLE WAS ALSO MADE AVAILABLE TO PRESS BY BARROS FILHO AND REPORTED DEC 23.

6. IN WHAT MAY BE FIRST OF DOSMETIC POLITICAL SQUABBLES REKINDLED BY RELEASE OF DOCUMENTS, EX-PRESIDENT QUADOS AND SAO PAULO STATE GOVERNOR EGYDIO HAVE TRADED ACCUSATIONS ABOUT ROLES IN 1965 PLOT AGAINST CASTELLO BRANCO. EGYDIO HAD CLAIMED TO PRESS THAT QUADOS HAD AGREED TO SUPPORT ADEMAR BARROS FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC AFTER THE OVERTHROW OF CASTELLO BRANCO. IN DECEMBER 23 PRESS QUADOS CALLED EGYDIO A MAN POORLY INFORMED AND DENIED HE HAD EVER CONSPIRED AGAINST HIS GOOD FRIEND CASTELLO BRANCO. CRIMMINS

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